THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As a part of the States' suggestions for a revision in the Gadgil Formula and in the subsequent discussions in the 49th Meeting of the National Development Council (NDC) held on 1st September, 2001, several non-special category States have *inter-alia,* proposed liberalising the existing loan-grant ratio of Central Plan Assistance. The existing loan-grant ratio of plan assistance to States is based on the Gadgil Formula as approved by the NDC in December, 1991. Any change in the Formula requires the approval of the NDC. Moreover, a change in the existing ratio has implication on Centre's revenue and capital receipts and thereby on the plan assistance to States. Hence, any decision on this subject would be based on the overall resource position of the Centre and the decision of the NDC in this regard.

Circulation of Bhutanese currency in West Bengal

2031. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Bhutanese currency are in wide circulation at the Indo-Bhutan bordering areas *e.g.* Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar and Dooars of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To check circulation of Bhutanese Currency in the Indo-Bhutan bordering areas Reserve Bank of India has taken steps to improve supplies of Indian Currency to these areas. The position of stock of notes and coins in these areas is monitored by RBI, Central Office on a monthly basis. Further the district administration of Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar Districts have taken necessary action to check the circulation of Bhutanese Currency in border areas.